



TOWN OF STONINGTON

Board of Selectmen and
Board of Warden & Burgesses
Special Meeting
March 11, 2009

A special meeting of the Stonington Board of Selectmen and Stonington Board of Wardens and Burgesses was held on March 11, 2009.

Present:

First Selectman Edward Haberek

Selectman Peter Balestracci

Warden: Donald R. Maranell, Street Commissioner

Burgesses: Scott D. Bates, Emergency Management, Police & Public Affairs
Commissioner

Sarah E. Blair, Parks & Trees Commissioner

Jeffrey Callahan, Public Buildings Commissioner

Kathryn Nason, Utilities & Sanitation Commissioner

Robert Scala, Fire Commissioner

Absent:

Selectman William A. Brown

Burgesses: Edward A. McCreary, Street Lights, Sidewalks & Communications
Commissioner

(1) Call To Order

Mr. Haberek called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

(2) Public Comment

None.

(3) Traffic Safety

Mr. Burgess reported that there has been good coordination with the Town and Borough and a crossing guard is at the square. Crosswalks have been redone. The speed limit is 20 mph throughout the Borough. Mr. Maranell stated he is appreciative of what Captain Desmond has been doing. There was discussion on messages on alerts. Mr. Bates will review with Captain Desmond.

(4) Skateboard Park

Mr. Haberek stated after numerous deliberations the Skateboard Park does not seem to be a feasible project. Several locations for the park were discussed. Mr. Haberek suggested forming a subcommittee to continue to explore a possible location. Mr. Bragaw, Ms. Blair, and Mr. Haberek will serve on the subcommittee.

(5) Town Dock Enhancements

Mr. Haberek reported the lighting project has been completed. As far as working on the Stonington Town Dock, South Pier Extension, there is difficulty with ledge. In the

meantime there are sinkholes by the dock. Allocation of monies to fix some of the areas that are compromised is under review. There have been some plans for the extension, but in all likelihood, it will not come to fruition.

(6) Collaborative Opportunities that the Town and Borough Can Work On

There has been collaboration with regard to snow plowing, salt, and sand.

Mr. Maranell stated at the next meeting of the Stonington Borough Board of Wardens and Burgesses the physical condition of the Foot Bridge will be discussed and ownership may be an issue. He suggested Mr. Bragaw inspect the bridge for its structural condition. Prior meeting minutes will be reviewed to determine ownership.

Mr. Bates suggested joint purchasing with other towns as possible collaborative opportunities. Mr. Haberek stated that he has held two meetings with the Towns of Groton and Westerly.

Mr. Haberek stated as soon as the Board of Finance approves the preemptive light it will move forward.

Mr. Haberek reported due to the economy, retail businesses in the Borough are facing difficulties. The Stonington Borough Business Task Force has been formed. A SWAT analysis of the Borough's economic environment has been done. This group will identify difficulties in this economic climate and reasons why retail has been affected. From that, a smaller task force will be formed to develop a plan to analyze the Borough's assets and make recommendations going forward.

Mr. Maranell stated he appreciates the continued support to repair the seawalls. A request will be submitted for a grant.

Mr. Maranell reported he offered the Census Bureau meeting space at the Borough Hall and stated the Fire Department is also available for meetings if needed.

Mr. Callahan questioned the status of Connecticut stimulus funds. Mr. Haberek acknowledged that a task force has been convened. Some funds may be available for the Mystic streetscape infrastructure.

Mr. Bates stated he will be leaving the Board and thanked everyone.

(7) Comments of the Public

Mr. Juan O'Callahan, 40 Salt Acres Road, Stonington - Discussed the Town's reimbursement to the Stonington Borough for maintaining the streets. He urged that consideration be given to the formula that has been previously discussed.

(8) Adjournment

Mr. Callahan made a motion to adjourn at 7:13 p.m., seconded by Mr. Balestracci, and the motion carried unanimously.

Submitted by,

Maureen L. Carboni, Recorder